

News brief

Olympic Committee president to speak at symposium

U.S. Olympic Committee President Sandra Baldwin will be the keynote speaker at the Warsaw Sports Marketing Center's 7th annual Women in Sports Business Symposium, "The Game has Changed."

The symposium kicks off at 7 p.m. today in the EMU Ballroom.

Baldwin is speaking on "Promoting Women in Sports Worldwide" and on global perspectives on women in athletics and sports business.

Representatives from the Portland Trail Blazers, Coca-Cola, the WNBA and Adidas are among other featured speakers.

Following the speakers will be a networking reception at 8:30 p.m. in the Gerlinger Lounge. There is no charge to attend the events in the Ballroom, but admission to the reception is \$15.

The symposium continues Friday with several discussion panels in the ballroom. The day begins with the "Measuring Success:

Women's Professional Sports" panel discussion at 9 a.m. The discussion centers on how the media judge success in women's professional sports, 2002 symposium Co-Chairwoman Serena Lusk said.

Many of the talks will focus on how gender plays a role in the working world.

"All discussions will also include

information on how these women advanced in a mostly male-dominated sports industry," Lusk said.

The event is run entirely by students in the Warsaw Sports Marketing Center in the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business.

For more information, call Serena Lusk at 684-9732.

— Robin Weber

Cultural Forum

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nationally.

The finalists will each have a day of interviews with the search committee, Lobisser and EMU Director Dusty Miller, as well as give a public presentation in the EMU before a decision is made. Students can check the EMU schedule — posted daily in the lobby between the Fishbowl and the Taylor Lounge — for locations of the presentations.

Lobisser said the EMU is investing so much time and resources into finding someone to fill the position partly because of the impact the program coordinator has on student life.

"It's an exciting position, and it is a position that has a significant impact on the quality of life for students," he said.

The search committee, headed by Greek Life Coordinator Shelley Sutherland, is comprised of four

students and three University staff members. Students on the committee include Cultural Forum Performing Arts Coordinator Windy Borman, ASUO Vice President-elect Ben Buzbee, EMU Board Chair Christa Shively and Hai Do from the Multicultural Center.

By involving as many viewpoints as possible in the search for the coordinator, Lobisser said he hoped whoever is chosen will have the support of the community.

"In some ways, it's an investment to pick the very best person, but it's also an investment to help that person be successful after they arrive," he said.

Based on the interviews and feedback they receive from people who attend the candidates' public presentations, the search committee will

make a recommendation to Lobisser, who will make the final decision. He said he expects to offer someone the job by the first week in June.

Whoever is chosen will replace a leader who has clashed with administrators but has been strongly supported by students. After EMU administrators decided last spring not to renew Dievendorf's contract after 17 years as Cultural Forum program coordinator, students protested and demanded her reinstatement.

Since then, however, students in the Cultural Forum have helped with the search for Dievendorf's replacement. Borman said they began to look to the future after Dievendorf decided not to pursue her reinstatement through legal avenues.

"When she did that, we finally decided not to beat the dead horse and

work towards looking for ways to help the search committee," Borman said.

Despite some initial tension between herself and Lobisser, Borman said the search committee process has gone well. Borman said they are looking for someone with motivation and experience.

"We want someone who is excited about working with students and has a variety of experiences planning large scale concerts to intimate art gatherings, and everything in between."

As for Dievendorf, she said she remains disappointed with the lack of discussion between her and administrators before her contract was terminated.

She said she decided not to file a lawsuit for her reinstatement partly because she doesn't want to dwell in the past. She said she also realizes

now that she had a part in what happened because she made decisions that, while she believed they were right, she knew could affect her job.

Although she is leaving the Cultural Forum, Dievendorf is optimistic about the future of the program and wishes her successor well.

"It feels like it's going to be a good beginning for someone else, and it's time for me to let go," she said. "I realized that in January."

After her contracts end May 24, Dievendorf said she plans to start her own production, promotion and consulting business.

"I'm going to miss the students terribly," she said. "I'm not going to miss the politics, though."

E-mail student activities editor Kara Cogswell at karacogswell@dailyemerald.com.

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reach an agreement," she said. "But this will have to take place at the bargaining table." Walden declined to answer further questions, delivering a statement instead.

"The Register-Guard is a great place to work, and it provides 430 of the best jobs in the area," she said.

Since the hiring of Michael Zinser, an anti-labor lawyer from Nashville, The Register-Guard has been in and out of court and unable to reach an agreement with the union. On Tuesday, the newspaper went to court again for charges of changing advertising commission plans without communicating with the guild.

"That's eroding our most basic right," said Scott Maben, vice president of the guild and environmental reporter. The company wants employees to waive their right, while under contract, to meet with management about changes like restructuring a department, Maben said.

Maben added that he has also seen an increase in hiring of part-time employees, which would ultimately benefit publisher Tony Baker and the newspaper because part-timers receive less pay and benefits and aren't eligible to be in a guild.

A guild bargainer proposed a settlement April 24. Berlinski said the union has already compromised by accepting drug and alcohol testing, a clause that prevents people from working at home and changes to the grievance procedure.

"The union has given management a lot of leeway," Berlinski said, including an agreement to give up their right to strike.

"However, we are refusing to back down on a proposal to keep the union from using the office e-mail system," Berlinski added. A judge decided earlier in the year that limiting the union's use of office e-mail was illegal practice, Berlinski said, and many workers believe they should stick by this ruling.

Other community members toted signs saying, "It's about free speech."

Maben said he's discouraged that he hasn't seen one published letter to the editor about this labor issue.

"There is a virtual blackout on our editorial page," he said. "We are nearly silent."

Nicole Hill is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

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